



# 2006 Annual Report

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## 1. Introduction & Significant Contributions in 2006

On behalf of the Executive Committee of GovNet, I take pleasure in providing the second annual report of the Australian Research Council's Governance Research Network.

As reported last year, there were considerable delays in setting up the network:

- a. the inter-university contract was not signed until December 2005;
- b. accordingly, ARC funds could not be dispersed to the streams until early in 2006;
- c. the Deputy Convenor took three years leave from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 and it took six months to recruit another; and
- d. delays in the building that was going to house GovNet in Canberra (this continues in 2007 and the space will not be ready until December 2007).

Despite that, there were considerable achievements in the first year which started to bear fruit in the second year. Indeed, some of them have proven even more successful than anticipated at that time.

The 2006 highlights listed below are GovNet's 'contributions of particular significance' in 2006.

1. Securing endowment funding for research in the Public Sector Governance Stream. This is an extremely rare achievement and sets an important precedent in Australian research in the humanities and social sciences.
2. Establishment and commencement of a \$6.3m governance research fund for joint work between Indonesian and Australian scholars by AusAID (this is \$2.6m more than originally reported). Given the importance of the Australian-Indonesian relationship, this may be particularly important in understanding the different governance structure and approaches and allowing those from each country (and particularly Indonesia) to improve their governance systems to help reduce poverty, conflict and terrorism.
3. The World Bank and other donors (USAID, DFID and AusAID) provided well over US\$700,000 for the inaugural 'World Ethics Forum' to be held in Oxford from 9-12 April 2006. Of this some \$350,000 was directed by the Convenor and administered by Griffith University under a World Bank contract. At that Forum, the Global Integrity Alliance (GIA) was launched and the Convenor has been appointed to the GIA Board. The GIA is intended to provide a range of programs that provide assistance to leaders in developing countries to lead with integrity.
4. The third and most successful GovNet conference was held in November 2006. Over 150 researchers, policy practitioners and RHD students attended the 2 day event to address *Transformation in Governance: Capacity Building in Australia and the Asia/Pacific Region*. Other workshops and meetings were organised in conjunction with the conference.
5. Establishment of strong links with a wide range of international networks and institutions for all streams – including participation in British and Canadian network grants and with United Nations (UN) initiatives – especially the Environment Program – Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI) and the UN Global Compact. The Convenor represents GovNet in a newly won Canadian SSHRC network, the Canadian Business Ethics Network led by Professor Wes Cragg. The Corporate Governance Stream was successful in winning \$240,000 from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK to research the impact of negotiated prosecutions in the financial sector.
6. Securing scale and depth in a range of projects – especially in the endowed research for public governance, the AIGRP and the WEF and some large projects won in public governance and

international governance streams.

7. Winning and planning for a number of major cross-disciplinary grants taking advantage of the quality, interdisciplinary and geographical spread of the teams and the scope of the ideas researched with increased collaboration between lawyers and ethicists.
8. A 55% increase in membership to 245 members through the newly designed website.

I would like to thank our partners and their host organisations, in particular members of the Executive Group, Professor Howard Adelman (IEGL), Professor John Wanna, Sir John Bunting Chair of Public Administration, ANZOG, Professor Andrew MacIntyre, Director of the Crawford School, Associate Professor Jeannette Kennet (CAPPE, ANU) and Professor Justin O'Brien (CAPPE, CSU). I would particularly like to thank the Office of the Public Service Commission and the three Universities involved (Griffith, ANU and CSU) for their continued and valuable support.

**Professor Charles Sampford**  
**Convenor, ARC Governance Research Network**  
**On behalf of the Executive Committee**

## 2. Meeting the Objectives

- 2.1 GovNet Networking Objectives
- 2.2 New Approaches
- 2.3 Increasing Scale and Focus
- 2.4 Facilitating Internationalisation and International Linkages
- 2.5 National Benefit
- 2.6 No Variation to Objectives
- 2.7 Extent to Which the Objectives Have Been Met
- 2.8 Carry Forward

### 2.1 GovNet Networking Objectives

In putting together the network proposal, we addressed the question put by the ARC's network program: how do we add value to the excellent research currently being done by individuals, centres and existing formal and informal networks? We thought that we could add such value through the 8 networking objectives (on right).

### 2.2 New Approaches

We have pleasure in reporting on how GovNet "has tackled or plans to tackle issues in a manner that may not otherwise have been achievable without the mechanism of a Research Network"

GovNet has brought together those in different governance related disciplines to the GovNet Executive, to the conferences, to the workshops and to the research projects that have emerged.

One of the most important innovations is to actually provide time and support for senior academics to engage in major networking initiatives as well as attract highly credible research leaders from overseas. Funding from the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC), for GovNet enabled Professor John Wanna to spend time developing ANZSOG endowment funding to promote international research collaboration.

GovNet funding has allowed the Deputy Convenor to put together a very large proposal for international medical governance.

Griffith University provided the Convenor with time and support to mount the most ambitious international ethics conference – the World Ethics Forum, under difficult circumstances.

### GovNet Networking Objectives

1. Encouraging the foment (and ferment) of ideas across the disciplines and subjects of governance involving end-users in planning research directions.

2. Establishing research streams for developing and funding innovative, higher quality (and generally interdisciplinary) projects and programs, researching the governance of particular institutions and sets of institutions.

The five streams cover: global governance, Asia-Pacific regional governance mechanisms, public sector governance, corporate governance and regulation, and the many and varied institutions of 'civil society'.

3. Exploring cross-cutting research themes, based on national priorities and emerging governance issues that cross the traditional institutional boundaries of governance research.

For example, issues concerning corruption in Australia and elsewhere cross over corporate and public sector institutions and the solutions generally involve civil society and the professions.

4. Asia-Pacific governance capacity building. (This diversifies funding sources, reduces reliance on the ARC and exposes researchers to significant governance problems in a range of different contexts.)

5. Improving the techniques of research design and management.

6. Improving communication of results to various audiences and end-users.

7. Strengthening the Network and enhancing future viability.

8. Improving the experiences and employability of RHD students.

The 2005 GovNet Conference brought Justin O'Brien to Australia and he was soon recruited to the Centre of Applied Philosophy and Ethics (CAPPE) to lead the Corporate Governance Stream of GovNet.

### **2.3 Increased Scale and Focus**

We have pleasure in reporting on how GovNet has "increased or is planning to increase the scale and focus of research activities."

GovNet brings together governance researchers with a track record of leading projects that were considered large scale for humanities and social sciences. Developing this trend was always a GovNet goal. However, after the first 18 months of operation, the Executive decided that the limited resources were best focussed on pursuing strategic, large scale activities as is indicated by the achievements 1 to 3 outlined in the Introduction and 2006 Highlights (p3) and our plans in the medical governance and corporate governance areas.

### **2.4 Facilitating the Internationalisation of Research and International Linkages**

We have pleasure in reporting on how GovNet has facilitated the internationalisation of research and international linkages.

That was always a primary goal of our activities and has certainly been a feature of almost all of the activities of the network's leaders. Almost all workshops involved international collaboration with distinguished individual academics from other countries either presenting or participating in events. Several of them involved collaboration with research centres in other countries. New projects and programs are being planned with the United Nations University (UNU), Oxford University (World Ethics Forum), the World Bank (the Global Integrity Alliance), The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI), Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI). It is here that the link with the United Nations University (UNU) has proven particularly valuable.

One set of international linkages that are particularly important for governance is the participation of GovNet researchers in governance capacity building projects. Growing linkages with AusAID through Australia-Indonesia Governance Research Partnership (AIGRP), World Ethics Forum (WEF) and other initiatives are increasingly important. We are building on this through Objective 4 and the work of Mr Simon Cann-Evans at the ANU and Dr Arthur Shacklock at Griffith University.

GovNet was able to bring Justin O'Brien to Australia from Queen's University in Belfast in August 2006. When he joined GovNet as stream leader of the corporate governance stream, he brought with him a major Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) project comparing corporate governance approaches in UK and USA. He led a GovNet group in joining a new ESRC collaborative project on "Private Equity, A Global Opportunity or Threat." Through the Convenor, GovNet joined the SSHRC funded Canadian Business Ethics Research Network, which was announced in March 2007.

One form of internationalisation that is being pursued by the Convenor is assistance in establishing governance research centres in other countries in the region to institutionalize research co-operation. Good progress has been made on the establishment of a centre in Jakarta to be led by Professor Azyumardi Azra with support of the President and Vice President secured by Professor Azyumardi Azra through a series of three meetings (the most recent of which was held on 4 April 2007 involving the Vice President and Professors Azra and Sampford). Planning for a similar centre in the Philippines is at an earlier stage but funding for a lead up project has been secured through a PSLP for which Presidential support has been secured.

In 2006, ANZSOG was given a Commonwealth Government grant of \$10 million to place into a foundation operated by ANZSOG for research and international collaboration. This grant was given because of the confidence in the ANZSOG initiatives regarding research and international

collaboration. The New Zealand government then matched this grant with a further NZ\$10 million in February 2007, again to support the research efforts of ANZSOG.

Two international book series in governance are edited from GovNet central - Routledge's "Challenge of Globalisation" and Ashgate's "Law, Ethics and Governance". A call for submissions to the latter book series in early 2007 and ongoing editorial assistance will be provided in kind by Griffith University.

## 2.5 National Benefit

While it is a little early in the history of the Network to claim any significant contributions to the national benefit, the contributions of particular significance are all in the process of contributing to the national benefit.

As we emphasised in our application, the importance of good and effective governance cannot be overstated. Our research is linking into global and international networks on Leadership and Integrity in Public Agencies and on Ethics and Social Responsibility in the Corporate Sector while GovNet is establishing regional networks (most notably the Indonesian-Australian collaboration).

## 2.6 No Variation in Objectives

As the original plan was based on \$500,000 p.a. rather than the \$300,000 received, it is difficult to achieve all the outlined objectives to the same extent. All objectives have been retained but priorities had to be set. Objective 2 was always going to be the largest and most important and expensive goal as it is at the heart of the network and involves the maximum cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional work. Other objectives with strong support during 2006 were Objective 6 and, towards the end of the year, 4. Objective 5 has commenced and will become an important focus for 2006-7. The extent to which GovNet can achieve Objective 8 is limited to sharing of best practice under Objective 5. We have planned our activities to pursue multiple objectives wherever possible – especially incorporating Objective 3 wherever possible.

The delays caused by the late signing of the contract and the time taken to find a replacement Deputy Convenor have meant that the remaining expenditures will be spread over 2007-9, covering a full year in 2009.

## 2.7 Meeting the Originally Stated Objectives

The originally stated GovNet objectives are set out below with comment on activities to 31 December 2006 in italics. Details are provided under Section 5 – GovNet Achievements (pps 28-29).

1. Encouraging the foment (and ferment) of ideas across the disciplines and subjects of governance involving end-users in planning research directions.

*This objective is the overall goal of GovNet stated in most general terms and it is largely achieved through the other measures listed below. However, this objective is directly pursued through the annual conference and through supporting visiting scholars and practitioners. The 2006 annual conference was the first one that was not organised in conjunction with another body and was well attended and provided the core around which other activities were planned.*

2. Establishing research streams for developing and funding innovative, higher quality (and generally interdisciplinary) projects and programs, researching the governance of particular institutions and sets of institutions. The five streams cover: global governance, Asia-Pacific regional governance mechanisms, public sector governance, corporate governance and regulation, and the many and varied institutions of 'civil society.'

*All five streams have been operative with considerable activity – extending and strengthening existing national and international networks. The weakest had been in corporate governance*

*but this is now performing extremely strongly with excellent international links now that the CSU funded Professor of Corporate Governance, Justin O'Brien has arrived.*

3. Exploring cross-cutting research themes, based on national priorities and emerging governance issues that cross the traditional institutional boundaries of governance research. For example, issues concerning corruption in Australia and elsewhere cross over corporate and public sector institutions and the solutions generally involve civil society and the professions.

*During 2006, this was done by the incorporation of cross-cutting themes in other activities – most notably in having the 2006 conference jointly hosted by two streams and by the choice of activities in each of the streams. The World Ethics Forum covered international, public and corporate governance, emphasised the role of religion and civil society and led to a vital capacity building initiative (the GIA). Indeed, most of the workshops and activities held have had relevance across more than one stream. One example is the Sports Governance program of the Civil Society Governance Stream – showing how a diverse range of governance disciplines have been brought together to address an emerging priority for Australian organisations. Sport is big business, but relies on both public and private infrastructure, including volunteers. Together with the Australian Sports Commission, GovNet (through Civil Society and Corporate Governance Streams) is working to deliver practical governance tools to this sector.*

4. Asia-Pacific governance capacity building. (This diversifies funding sources, reduces reliance on the ARC and exposes researchers to significant governance problems in a range of different contexts.)

*During 2006, Simon Cann-Evans, appointed to develop international governance consultancies successfully assisted GovNet to win capacity building grants, most significantly of all, the \$6.3m Australia-Indonesia Governance Research facility was established to support Indonesian-Australian governance research. Simon is now concentrating on training, advice and assistance to GovNet members in seeking and securing capacity building grants.*

5. Improving the techniques of research design and management. Once won, grants need to be used as efficiently as possible.

*This activity was planned in 2006 and will commence in 2007. An online forum has been created to address this objective on the GovNet website where members can share resources, experience and best practice. Later in the year, the Deputy Convenor will travel to each capital city to discuss approaches to research design and management with centre directors and to hold some workshops to compare ideas.*

6. Improving communication of results to various audiences and end-users.

*A sophisticated website with interactive features to promote collaborative research was developed and shown to GovNet members in December 2006. Regular communication of GovNet activities occurs through the communication outputs (event promotions, websites, media, newsletters, Board reporting) of our major Centres and organisations. Preparations have been made for the 2007 launch of GovNet's online E-Journal. GovNet engages with the public on topical issues of governance through the Socratic Forum.*

7. Strengthening the Network and enhancing future viability.

*This is a result of the other activities but the foundations were laid with the development of a strong committed, co-operative Executive committee and the continued winning of research contracts.*

## 8. Improving the experiences and employability of RHD students.

*This goal is largely derivative of other activities – participation in the conference and workshops organised by the streams, and improved centre and project management under Objective 5.*

*However, stream leaders continue to build ECRs and RHDs into their individual projects and programs. Most notable are the dedicated PhD scholarships funded by the Australian Public Service Commission that form part of the Public Governance Stream. Five of the six planned PhD students have already been enrolled. The first was due to complete in late 2006. These candidates are fostered within a strong research culture and regularly meet with government agencies and practitioners in departments. The APSC has a close relationship with these researchers. Second, we have been growing ECR through the appointment of young scholars fresh from their PhDs to become ANZSOG appointments (eg A. Tiernan, A. Gash, C. Donovan, C. Althaus, L. Botterill, and J. O’Flynn). This is a serious commitment to providing research based opportunities for early career researchers. The Public Governance stream is to establish a secondment or practitioner in residence scheme with the Australian parliaments, executive agencies and departments. This will be arranged under ANZSOG and enable potential researchers to work in team relations with senior academic researchers at the universities.*

*AIGRP includes a Young Scholars Workshop and a Young Scholars Mentoring Program. More than a dozen ECRs attended the East Asia political economy workshop and were able not just to interact with the senior researchers, but take part in a dedicated clinic with Stephan Haggard (UC San Diego) to go over the design of their doctoral research.*

*The World Bank endorsed and USAID provided over USD \$100,000 to bring 20 young leaders from around the world to the World Ethics Forum. We built an interactive space on the GovNet website for RHD student members of GovNet which was available from December 2006 onwards.*

*The GovNet website also include an interactive forum for RHD students to collaborate and share resources.*

### 2.8 Carry Forward

The carry forward has been significantly reduced. The Griffith financial report shows a reduction from \$396,649 to \$???. The effective reduction in carry forward is not so great because the Griffith figures reflect the fact that, under the agreement, significant funds are to be expended through the nodes at ANU and CSU. There are significant carry forwards in those accounts for five reasons:

- a. The nodes received the first two full years of funding during 2006 (due to the late signing of the agreement in December 2005);
- b. Delays in holding some workshops which are now to be held in 2007;
- c. Some workshops and forums for which GovNet had budgeted a significant subsidy and/or underwriting have been considerably more successful in securing external funding than had been anticipated. This is an unalloyed good for the success of the network but did lead to reduced spending in this field. For example, the Asia Pacific Capacity building stream underwrote the workshop, *The Political Economy of East Asia a Decade after the Financial Crisis*, but secured \$60,000 from outside sources and called on GovNet for only \$6,911. Note that there was a similar phenomenon in GovNet central which was prepared to provide significant underwriting for the World Ethics Forum but World Bank and other funding eventually amounted to over USD \$700,000.

d. A change in stream leadership of the corporate governance stream led to a delay in expenditure with a very significant catch up already under way during 2007; and

e. Delays in journaling some of the expenditures – in part because of the finalisation of accounts for workshops funded by both GovNet and other sources and in part because of the appointment process for the new Deputy Convenor. The total for these journals will be approximately \$65,000. The Central GovNet budget items marked to be journalled (TBJ) total \$??? were in fact journalled in early 2007 at the time the University reconciles all of its project accounts. The remaining funds are set to be journalled in 2007 following reconciliation of event costs.

More generally the late start for GovNet has meant that we have planned to effectively spread the funding over five years from January 2005 means that we would want to have \$160,000 carry over to cover the extra half year. We plan to reduce the carry over to \$200,000 by the end of 2007 and to \$160,000 by the end of 2008.

### 3. GovNet Management and Governance

GovNet is managed by an Executive Committee comprising the Convenor, the Deputy Convenor and the Stream Leaders. Two of the Stream Leaders have other responsibilities (Professor MacIntyre manages both the Asia Pacific Governance Stream and the capacity building objective. Professor John Wanna is the Stream Leader for Public Governance and also manages the cross-cutting themes). Objectives 5 and 6 are managed by the Deputy Convenor except that the organisation of the conference moves from one node to another. Objectives 7 and 8 are shared.

During 2006, we held five face to face meetings.

1. 14<sup>th</sup> February 2006
  2. 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006
  3. 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006
  4. 29<sup>th</sup> August 2006
  5. 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006
6. A further meeting was held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

Although facilities for video conferencing are in place at virtually no cost, the Convenor and Deputy Convenor are in Canberra often enough to do business face to face which is always preferable.

These Executive Committee meetings covered a range of issues but the following summarises the main issues covered and decided at Executive committee meetings.

- A. Stream activities are proposed by the Stream Leaders for feedback from other members of the Executive. The Executive Committee does not micromanage the activities of the streams and will rarely reject a proposal. However, the requirement to present the plans to the members of the Executive is to ensure that the proposed expenditure benefits the network as a whole rather than for the particular centre/institution/group from which the stream leader comes. Each meeting has an update on stream activities to stimulate the cross fertilization of ideas. The last and first meetings of the year always deal with this issue.
- B. Reporting requirements and annual report (meetings 1-4, 6)
- C. Payments under the contract (meeting 1)
- D. Handling the corporate governance and social responsibility stream (meetings 4-5)
- E. Annual conference – hosts, themes, location, level of support, guest speakers. All these have been decided by Executive committee (all meetings to date have had this on the agenda with

the conference hosts providing updates and gaining approval for decisions on the above issues).

F. Approach to website development (meetings 1-4, 6)

### **Advisory Board**

The original application sought to centre the advisory function on the individual nodes with each stream taking advice from advisors drawn from its own. The advantage of this is the avoidance of duplication and more direct communication. The disadvantage is that the approach is uneven.

GovNet central (which includes the international stream) reports to and seeks feedback from the Advisory Board of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance.

In addition, the Socratic Forum has an Advisory Board whose responsibility is to advise on suitable topics and speakers. That Board includes the co-chairs (Professor Ashley Goldsworthy and Dr Barry Jones), Rev. Dr. John I Fleming, Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser AC CH John F Kearney AM QC Professor. Don Nicklin AO, The Hon Margaret Reid, Professor. Charles Sampford, Sir Bruce Watson AC and Dr. Neil Weste. In addition, the patron, the Rt.Hon. Sir Zelman Cowen AK GCMG GCVO QC DCL is consulted for his views. Professor Ashley Goldsworthy, the founder and a co-chair, is very active in recruiting speakers and sponsors. During 2006, Ms Melea Lewis was the Griffith researcher in charge of the academic organisation.

Centre of Applied Philosophy and Ethics (CAPPE) also did the same and has commenced a process of reporting to its Board designed to generate feedback.

The Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG) Research Committee provides strong input into the Public Governance Stream. It meets quarterly. In 2006, it was restructured to allow more engagement of the end users with Ken Henry from Treasury as the new Chair.

The one exception was the Crawford School of Economics and Government (which is responsible for the Asia Pacific and Governance Capacity Building streams), which has not had a suitable Advisory Board.

The Executive Committee considered that the original distributed advisory function has been uneven and that some overall advice would be valuable. It had planned to appoint an external advisor for each of the streams and that these advisors will meet once a year at the annual conference to review and direct the research direction of the GovNet streams. However, the Executive Committee reviewed the plan and decided that such a Board would be too difficult to assemble sufficiently often and effectively to provide useful continuing advice. It was decided that the existing streams of advice from the above Advisory Boards would continue and that the source of advice for GovNet as a whole would come from the soon to be constituted Advisory Board of the Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law which houses GovNet central. This will be constituted by June 2007.

## **4. GovNet Membership**

Since the launch of our online membership registration, GovNet membership has risen 55% to a total of 245 members with a significant increase in the number of international members as well as RHD students. GovNet continues to attract high calibre professionals and researchers from across a wide range of sectors and disciplines. See Attachment 1 for a complete list of members.

Through the online registration process, the Convenor is automatically notified if there is a new applicant. He can then view it on-line and either approve of it or, if in doubt, can refer it to other members of the Board for their consideration.

## 5. GovNet Achievements

- 5.1 Stream Achievements
- 5.2 Asia-Pacific governance capacity building (Objective 4)
- 5.3 World Ethics Forum and the Global Integrity Alliance
- 5.4 Annual GovNet International Conference
- 5.5 Socratic Forums
- 5.6 Communication
  - 5.6.1 Website
  - 5.6.2 E-Journal and E-News

### 5.1 Steam Achievements

#### **Stream 1: Global, International and Trans-National Governance**

**Stream Leader: Professor Howard Adelman, Deputy Convenor, Griffith University**

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During 2006, this stream concentrated on developing the global network of researchers and practitioners in international law, international relations and ethics with a particular emphasis on UN bodies.

In late 2005, Professor Howard Adelman took over this stream as one of his roles as Deputy Convenor. It was agreed that he would pursue a number of major international initiatives, seeking greater scale, focus and depth.

#### **a. New projects commenced**

Two multi-university grants have been won with the support of GovNet:

1. Bringing them home – a project seeking solutions to long term refugee problems (Griffith, ANU and now involving University of Sydney and UNSW); and
2. Reconceiving Sovereignty (Griffith, ANU, Princeton, United Nations University (UNU)).

Seeking these grants involved time and commitment by the Convenor and, particularly, Deputy Convenor and staff funded by Griffith University as part of their in-kind commitment to GovNet.

The Deputy Convenor is seeking to broaden the scope of the former and to increase its impact by holding discussions with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Bank, the United States (US) State Department and others.

The Convenor is seeking to extend the latter with the support of the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and US foundations.

#### **b. New Projects being developed**

##### *International Integrity systems*

The Convenor and Professor Thakur (now at CIGI previously and Assistant Secretary General of the UN) are planning a series of projects examining the institutions that support integrity and restrict corruption in the UN system and more broadly. This builds on work done in Australia on integrity systems with Transparency International but seeks to apply it to the international system. The United Nations University (UNU) will co-fund two workshops on internationalising the rule of

law as part of this process.

#### *National Security and Unwanted Aliens*

The program has begun discussions on an international comparative project dealing with the treatment of unwanted aliens (some for suspected links with terrorism and others simply because they have been rejected as immigrants or refugees but whom states cannot deport for a variety of reasons such as, the place where they are to be deported practices torture or the “home” country for various reasons refuses to accept them back). These people are usually interned “indefinitely”, a process that runs contrary to our general principles of due process and the rule of law that assumes that people cannot be interned without being put before a court of law.

#### *Peacemaking and Peacebuilding Proposal*

Professors Adelman and Braithwaite have begun discussions on developing a large scale international comparative project on the process of peacemaking and the connection between that process and developing practices of good governance. With the arrival of Dr Susanne Schmeidel, this can be developed further.

#### *Medical Governance*

The most effort has been expended on establishing the medical governance project. In December of 2005, Professor Adelman and Daniel Klass, MD FRCP(C), Associate Registrar and Director of the Quality Management Division of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, Toronto, Canada, wrote a first draft of a paper entitled “Governance of Physicians in a Globalized World: developing a transnational research program for medical regulation”. A transnational perspective was needed both to satisfy a need for a more orderly regulatory system in a world of increasing professional mobility as well as from both professional and public perceptions that ‘competence’ must be assessed according to *universal* standards.

The paper proposed developing a transnational research program to address the commonalities and inconsistencies of standards, methods and understanding in the world of medical regulation that would foster specific projects to tackle this domain of interest. Professor Adelman began to set up links among the members of the GovNet network that did research on different areas of medical governance. He also sent the paper to the World Health Organization and discussed the idea of a transnational comparative research project with WHO officials in Geneva in June of 2006 and was encouraged to develop the project. An iteration of that paper was presented in Wellington, New Zealand at the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Medical Regulation, 11-14 November 2006. The paper had an enthusiastic reception and a number of individuals and parties, including the Foundation for Advanced Medical Education and Regulation (FAMER), several National Boards of Medical Examiners, a Dean of a Medical School, all expressed strong interest in participating in and hopefully supporting the project.

In 2006 we have:

- a) developed an International Medical Regulatory Research Consortium (IMRRC);
- b) received in principle approval of WHO to partner with IMRRC through the auspices of the Global Health Workforce Alliance;
- c) developed a research program operating at three levels:
  - i) at the international level with research on physician migration and various government responses to the problems attendant thereto and funding is currently being put in place for that project;
  - ii) at the national level of each country as researchers are being identified and teams developed in coordination with national governments – in Australia, the initial focus will likely be on physician accreditation and regulation as the state governments and

the federal government have a joint project to put in place a federal integrated system by June of 2008; and

- iii) at the local level with some specific projects covering very focused research on one element of the overall vision – e.g. the effects on students and the host community of placing medical students in overseas third world positions for short periods.

### **c. Strengthening international partnerships**

Much time was spent developing existing relationships with various elements of the UN system. As GovNet is headquartered in one of the United Nations University (UNU) 22 research centres, it is strategically very well placed to do so. During 2006, we met senior members of the departments of Legal Affairs, Management, Oversight Services, UN Ethics Office, United Nations Development Program, World Health Organisation and the World Bank.

The Convenor was invited to visit the CIGI and discuss collaborative proposals. They contributed a return air fare and met all expenses. CIGI, located in Waterloo Canada, has received over CAD\$100m in support from the Blackberry Foundation and are very interested in developing joint projects with GovNet in close consultation with the Convenor. The Convenor, Deputy Convenor and Professor Thakur will seek support from US foundations for a range of projects.

The long standing linkages with Transparency International (TI) held by several researchers were reinforced by the invitation to the new Chair of TI, Dr Huguette Labelle to the opening session of the World Ethics Forum. Following this, TI invited the GovNet Convenor to speak at the International Anti Corruption Conference in Guatemala in November 2006.

There are a range of other links that are being promoted by the World Ethics Forum and the Global Integrity Alliance reported on elsewhere.

## **Stream 2: Asia-Pacific Institutional Reform and Regional Cooperation**

**Stream Leader: Professor Andrew MacIntyre, Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU**

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### **2006 GovNet International Conference**

The Asia Pacific and Public Sector Governance streams joined to host this year's GovNet International Conference. See page 28 for further information.

#### **a. Asia Pacific Stream Workshops**

The Asia Pacific stream held its first major activity in the form of two workshops in 2006. The workshops, were organised around the theme of *"The Political Economy of East Asia a Decade after the Financial Crisis"* and held in conjunction with the East Asia Forum and the University of California, Berkley. Four GovNet members were offered financial support to attend and participate in the workshop.

The workshops provided the stream its first real opportunity to bring together national and international stream members as well as other interested parties. This was tremendously valuable in and of itself, as many of these network members rarely have a chance to meet one another. This included senior scholars, ECRs and PhD students. Substantively, key outcomes from the discussion were new ideas about the "East Asian" model and how starkly this is now differentiated around the region, fundamental changes in investment patterns and the underlying importance of institutional changes together with coalitional changes in certain parts of the region.

### **Workshop One, ANU**

**20-22 July**

This workshop saw draft papers presented and subject to extensive review and critique. A range of other economists and political scientists [28], along with a number of ECRs [4] and PhD students [9], were invited to attend provide additional independent critique of the papers. The program along with a full list of papers and participants is provided in Attachment 2.

### **Workshop Two, University of California, Berkley**

**3-4 November**

The overall project combines a range of thematic and country-specific papers, with several central intertwined themes running the throughout.

- What has changed and what has not changed since the crisis?
- How do we explain these changes (or lack of changes)?
- What is their significance?

The specific topics covered by the time the project reached its second stage in Berkeley in November included:

- Regional Financial Cooperation in East Asia since the Crisis
- After the Fall: East Asian Exchange Rates since the Crisis
- Banking Systems a Decade after the Crisis
- Trade Developments in East Asia since the Crisis
- Containing the Oligarchs: the Politics of Corporate Governance Systems in East Asia
- Democratization, Crisis and the Changing Social Contract in East Asia
- The Capitalist Embrace: China Ten Years after the Asian Financial Crisis
- Korean Political Economy after the Crisis
- The Politics of Economic Recovery in Thailand and the Philippines
- Institutions, Economic Recovery and Macroeconomic Recovery in Indonesia and Malaysia.
- Beyond Crony Capitalism
- Regionalism vs. Nationalism

Eleven people attended including 9 senior Professors, 1 early career research and 1 PhD.

The project drew in substantial complementary North American funding (\$60,000) and is continuing in 2007.

#### **Outcome:**

The complete manuscript has been submitted to Cornell University Press, the Editor-in-Chief of which attended the first workshop to provide feedback and guidance on preparation for publication.

### **Stream 3: Public Sector Governance**

**Stream Leader: Professor John Wanna, Sir John Bunting Chair of Administration, ANU**

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#### **a. \$10m grant for international research collaboration**

In 2006, ANZSOG was given a Commonwealth Government grant of \$10 million to place into a foundation operated by ANZSOG for research and international collaboration. This grant was given because of the confidence in the ANZSOG initiatives regarding research and international collaboration. The New Zealand government then matched this grant with a further NZ\$10 million in February 2007, again to support the research efforts of ANZSOG.

#### **b. 2006 GovNet International Conference**

Public Sector Governance together with the Asia Pacific Stream hosted this year's GovNet International Conference. See page 28 for further information.

**c. Dialogue across Difference: Governance in a Multicultural Era  
4-5 December 2006, ANU**

Governance must increasingly proceed in the context of competing demands made by diverse communities at all levels – local, national, regional, and international. The competing and often contradictory nature of these demands poses all kinds of challenges to political and legal systems, and to the deliberative capacities of contemporary societies. Reactions to the publication in a Danish newspaper of cartoons depicting Mohammed provide a recent demonstration of the urgency of such questions, and the difficulty of providing mutually satisfactory answers to them. Partly in response to such problems, issues of multiculturalism and communication across cultures have become prominent in the social sciences. Insightful and innovative approaches to these problems are emerging. The conference acted as a focus for these debates, bringing developments and contrasting perspectives together.

The conference integrated empirical studies, social and political theory, and policy applications. Contributions looked at how governance across difference can proceed in legal systems, in innovative conflict resolution mechanisms, in decentralized governance networks, in the larger public sphere, and in transnational interaction. The conference sought to address different perspectives on culture and difference; whether there are grounds for dialogue across cultures, and what these might be; the motivation for members of diverse cultures to talk, and to listen, to one another; appropriate methods for cross-cultural communication; and the ways in which cultural differences have been seen as posing a problem of governance. A particular focus was on the ways in which members of one culture pass judgment on and criticize the practices of another. This is a difficult topic, which raises a range of conceptual, normative, and governmental issues. These were examined in relation to indigenous, immigrant, nation-state and trans-national communities.

Overseas speakers included Daniel Bell, Tony Bennett, Bonnie Honig, Chandran Kukathas, Anna Yeatman. A full list of speakers and program is provided in Attachment 3.

Sponsors included: GovNet; Political Science Program, RISS; Social and Political Theory Program, RISS; ANSOG and National Europe Centre, ANU. A commitment of \$20,000 was sought from GovNet for this event, however due to the high degree of success in attracting other sponsors, it is unlikely that this full amount will be required. \$4,662 worth of expenses had been met by GovNet by the end of 2006 and a full reconciliation of event costs will be made in 2007.

**Outcome:**

A book will be published from this work and 3 postgraduate students presented papers to the forum.

**d. Policy Analysis and Public Value Workshop**

14-15 May, 2006

This workshop brought together public policy and management academics and practitioners to peer review the frameworks and approaches being developed by Professor Claudia Scott (Professor of Public Policy, ANZSOG and Victoria University of Wellington) and Dr Karen Baehler (Senior Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington). GovNet contributed \$10,000 to this workshop.

**Outcome:**

Papers from this workshop will be published in an ANZSOG book series.

**e. Building Policy Capability in the Public Sector [3rd ICPA Forum Workshop]**  
28-29 November 2006

ANZSOG held a workshop on *Policy Capacity* which involved 30 people, 15 of whom were from overseas and interstate. Participants equally represented research and practice and three postgraduate students were also invited to attend. The topic, "Building Policy Capability in the Public Sector," is one which lends itself to comparative policy analysis and also to the discussion of issues which are shared across many countries. Many government leaders complain openly about declining capability and capacity in the public sector, though there is limited information and analysis to understand the nature of and solutions to real or perceived problems. Issues surrounding policy capability relate to the features of quality policy analysis and advice and to the way in which advisers can enhance the quality of decision-making. Further information is included in the conference flyer provided in Attachment 5. A GovNet contribution of \$10,000 was made to this workshop.

**Outcome:**

Special issue of *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* highlighting workshop outcomes is expected in 2008, and the paper, *Building capacity for policy implementation*, presented by Dr Anne Tiernan, is due for publication.

**f. Project Management and Organisational Change Conference**

ANZSOG's international conference, Project Management and Organisational Change was held in February 2006. Of the 400 people whom attended the conference, we estimate 90 percent were practitioners. The conference attracted 50 overseas participants and 10 postgraduate students. The two day conference had six themes [what were the themes], and practitioner input in designing conference. A list of keynote speakers and presentations is provided in Attachment 4.

**Outcome:**

Result was a publication, *Improving Implementation: Project Management and Organisational Change*, ANU e-Press, Canberra, 2007.

**g. Three Hong Kong Workshops**

12-14th December 2006

Three sessions were held over two days to discuss research collaboration, publishing in Australian Tier 1 journals, and postgraduate research topics. The speakers included; Professors John Wanna, Hon S. Chan, Mark Haylen, Brian Brewster and Martin Painter.

**h. Postgraduate Workshop at APSA Conference**

ANZSOG (ANU together with partners University of Sydney and Newcastle University), hosted a postgraduate workshop at the Australasian Political Studies Association Annual Conference on 25 - 27 September 2006. Sixty postgraduate students attended and the topics included:

1. getting published;
2. submitting articles to journals;
3. gender balances in political sciences;
4. how to do research;
5. framing your thesis; and
6. student presentations on their research topics and problems faced.

## **i. ANZOG Public Lecture Series 2006**

Project Management: the UK Gateway Project, Ian Glenday, February 2006

Blitzing the Villains or Helping the Compliant, Professor John Alford, May 2006

Twenty First Century Workforce Demographics and New Challenges for an Egalitarian Society, The Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP, Minister for Workforce Participation, August 2006

Towards a New Era of Strategic Government, Professor Geoff Gallop, Graduate School of Government, University of Sydney. October 2006

Recognising Public Value – How to Measure Performance, Mark Moore, November 2006.

## **j. Grants won**

The *Improving Decision Making in Government Service Delivery using Third Party Providers* project is an ARC grant for 2006-9 led by Professor John Wanna and attempts to provide research to deepen the understanding of the relationships between policy and public management.

Anne Tiernan successfully obtained a total funding of \$349,000 for the period 2007-2010, including an Australian Postdoctoral Fellowship.

## **Stream 4: Corporate Governance and Regulation**

**Stream Leader: Professor Justin O'Brien, Corporate Governance, CAPPE, ANU**

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Originally, it was planned that Regnet would be lead this theme. However, their core interests changed and it was agreed that leadership would shift to CAPPE with assistance from the Convenor and GovNet central. Funds unspent were rolled over into some larger events to be organised from March 2007 onwards.

Justin O'Brien took up the position of Professor of Corporate Governance at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics on 1 September 2006. He simultaneously assumed responsibility for the Corporate Governance And Regulation stream of GovNet.

### **a. Links made with practitioners**

The first task was to develop linkages with practitioners in the governance of financial markets. Professor O'Brien provided a keynote address to the Australasian Compliance Institute Annual Conference on the international implications of Sarbanes-Oxley (Sydney, 27 October 2006). The linkages made with the ACI paid dividends with the mounting of a panel at the Annual GovNet International Conference. The panel comprised Professor O'Brien and Dr Dean Cocking from CAPPE, Neil Buck, a prominent compliance consultant and Mr David Lawrence from the Australian Stock Exchange.

### **b. International Workshop - The Dynamics of Capital Market Governance**

Significant resources were expended in the planning of an international workshop on the regulation of capital markets which was held on 14-15 March 2007 at the ANU (see Attachment 6). The workshop focused upon the management of conflicts of interest, one of the most important areas of regulatory reform introduced in the wake of high profile collapses in Australia and internationally. The problem is magnified precisely because the regulatory framework is based on the structural acceptance that conflicts must only be managed not eradicated. The debate, which is global in nature, raises profound legal, accountability and ethical questions.

The workshop was designed to set a global research agenda and was co-sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the premier funding body for academic research in the United Kingdom. The injection of ESRC funds (\$12,500) enabled GovNet to attract a range of invited international speakers. These included: Professor John Coffee (Columbia University Law School); Professor Lauren Edelman (University of California at Berkeley Law School); Professor Doreen McBarnet (Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford); Iain McNeil (University of Glasgow Law School); Professor Sally Wheeler (Queen's University Belfast Law School). In addition a range of Australian academics were invited, including: Professor Ian Ramsay (University of Melbourne Law School); Professor Paul Redmond (University of Technology, Sydney); Professor John Braithwaite (REGNET, ANU); Professor Keith Houghton (Dean, College of Business and Economics, ANU); Professor Jennifer Hill (University of Sydney Law School); Professor Steven Bottomley (College of Law, ANU); Professor Arie Frieberg and Professor Graeme Hodge (Monash University Law School); Professor Seumas Miller, Professor Tom Campbell and Professor Justin O'Brien (CAPPE). In addition the Director of Regulatory Policy at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission was invited to give the opening address.

### **c. Proposed UNEP-Global Compact Research Program**

The Convenor and Dr Berry visited Geneva in October 2005 to discuss a joint research program with the United Nations Environment Program (Finance Initiative) and New York in April 2006 to encourage the Global Compact to join. It was agreed to hold a workshop on corporate governance at the World Ethics Forum and to discuss further plans for research cooperation. UNEP-FI is now taking the proposal through its internal processes and the Director of UNEP-FI, Mr Paul Clements-Hunt, is very hopeful that the program will be given strong support by UNEP and secure funding from members. Subsequent meetings, discussion and plans involving James Gifford from the Global Compact have been held – most recently in March 2007.

### **d. Other research achievements include:**

- Professor Justin O'Brien was a member of an international research consortium that successfully bid for a £100,000 (\$240,000) grant from the ESRC on the impact of negotiated prosecutions in the financial sector. Professor O'Brien will conduct all the fieldwork in the United States during 2007.
- The stream further developed linkages with ESRC-funded networks. Plans were made to take part in the ESRC World Economy and Finance Program Annual Workshop to be held at the University of Warwick on 11-13 July 2007. The stream will provide funding for one participant from Australia to attend the workshop (Professor O'Brien will be provided with funding by the ESRC).
- Professor O'Brien will produce an edited book in 2007, *Private Equity, Corporate Governance and the Dynamics of the Capital Market Governance*.
- The following research grant submissions were made:
  - Discovery Grant: Back to the Future, The Corporate Governance Implications of the Global Private Equity Boom (Justin O'Brien).
  - Linkage Grant: Managing Conflicts (Justin O'Brien, Ian Ramsay, Keith Houghton and Seumas Miller).
  - ESRC Grant: Private Equity, A Global Opportunity or Threat? (Justin O'Brien, Sally Wheeler, Iain McNeil, Doreen McBarnet).
  - SSHRC Grant in which GovNet is represented through the Convenor.

## **Stream 5: Civil Society Governance: Professions, Religious Institutions and NGOs**

Stream Leader: Associate Professor Jeanette Kennett, CAPPE, ANU

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### **a. Sports Governance**

The Sports Governance project of the Civil Society stream has attracted interest from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), talks are continuing with them on a project to develop a set of guidelines for the governance of sporting bodies. It is likely to give rise to an important consultancy which will draw upon the expertise available through both the Corporate Governance and Civil Society Streams of GovNet.

Sport is an important part of civil society. There are countless amateur sporting competitions, making use of public and private facilities, supported by federal, state and local government, schools, and Professional sporting bodies such as the AFL. The proper governance of competitions, teams, and relations between administrators, coaches, and individual participants is a pressing issue for administrators, most of whom are unpaid and often untrained volunteers. At the same time, sport is also big business and faces many of the same governance issues as other businesses.

The ASC is an important **end-user** (or representative of end users) of research in this area and we are responsive to their input in planning research. The workshop held in March 2006 was instrumental to establishing connections with the ASC.

### **b. Integrity Governance in Australian Sports Workshop**

*(held to coincide with the Commonwealth Games)*

13 March, 2006

This one day workshop examined the state of integrity governance within Australian sports. This workshop was the precursor to, and foundation for, a much larger study into integrity governance in Australian sports industries. It examined and built on recent work done in this field, highlighted important areas that need scrutiny, and developed a plan which might be used as a platform for future research projects.

#### **Outcomes:**

The key outcome of the workshop was a list of research questions that are appropriate to the Australian sports bodies that have a stake in the governance of Australian sports. A follow-up ranking of the value and priority of these questions was carried out by the participants about a week after the workshop concluded.

Professor O'Brien has been nominated for a Consultative Committee in the Australian Sports Commission examining governance in small, not-for-profit sporting groups.

Professor O'Brien and Associate Professor Kennett have also been asked to provide comments on the architecture and content of a series of web pages on Sports Governance website to assist not-for-profit sporting organisations in knowing about governance. Following this initial approval and development stage, we have been asked if we would be available to act as a moderating group to review the content. We have been asked to wait for this to happen before proceeding with specific consultative work on sports governance.

### **c. Governance of Science Project**

#### **Neuroethics Workshop**

24 November 2006, University of Melbourne

This workshop was the first event held for this program and reflected on the advances in reading and altering the brain, to develop an ethical framework from within which the uses of new technologies can be regulated, abuses curbed and implications for current legal and social policies drawn out. This was a first step to considering some of those implications, focusing on the use and abuse of mind-altering drug and their effects on decision making and self-control in particular. Further information is provided in Attachment 7. One RHD student and early career researcher presented and another 3 students participated in the workshop.

**Outcomes:**

Dr Neil Levy conducted a follow up workshop to this in Oxford in 2007. Associate Professor Kennett and Dr Levy won an ARC Discovery in 2006, titled "Approved Neuroethics: The Practical and the Philosophical". Dr Levy has also been appointed Editor of the new Springer Journal, *Neuroethics*, and Associate Professor Kennett is on the editorial board of the journal.

**d. Preparation and Planning for Conference on the Governance of Science and Technology (postponed in 2006)**

This two day conference will now be held in mid August 2007 and will examine ethical issues related to the governance of scientific research and technological development. Actual and potential developments in nanoscience and technology together with developments in related converging technologies such as biotechnology, information technology, cognitive science and neuroscience have led to calls for moratoria on certain research and development, and for the precautionary principle to be applied more often in these fields. There have been correspondingly strong attacks on these calls, reiterating the view that there should be no controls on research and development. This conference will examine the arguments underlying these positions for example at arguments about freedom of speech, dual use, the precautionary principle, cost-benefit analysis and risk assessment, and the rights and responsibilities of scientists and technologists. On the basis of these examinations it will explore the role of governments in controlling or regulating research and development and the viability of self-regulation.

Funding is being sought from GovNet to support one keynote speaker from either the US or the UK. Potential keynote speakers under consideration are Richard Mason (Cambridge), Philip Kitcher (Columbia) and Bernard Rollin (Colorado). All have written recent and relevant books on the ethics of scientific research.

Discussions are currently underway with Dr. Darryl Macer, UNESCO Regional Advisor in Social and Human Sciences for Asia and the Pacific, for UNESCO participation in this conference. He is keen on this and is exploring the possibility of some UNESCO funding. CAPPE will supply administrative and logistical support and GovNet support will cover for one international airfare.

**Other Work**

Preliminary planning has been done for a possible meeting on the regulation of science research (specifically nanotechnology) in the Asia Pacific region and to work on dual use dilemmas.

**e. Preparation and Planning for the Psychology and Ethics of New Marketing Workshop (postponed in 2006)**

This workshop is to be held at the University of Melbourne on the 6-7 August 2007 and will involve researchers and advocates from across disciplines to develop a broad understanding of the philosophical, empirical, ethical and governance issues that arise from the use of new marketing strategies. It should also be of public interest and articles based on the workshop presentations will be placed in the media.

TV advertising of junk food to children has attracted a lot of attention in the light of evidence of an obesity epidemic and there have been calls for tighter regulation of such advertising. But overt advertising is losing ground to covert forms of marketing and marketing methods which undermine

or bypass the ability of consumers to evaluate the messages they receive *as advertising*. What are these techniques and what kinds of regulatory regimes might be desirable or even possible to govern their use? This is an important issue not just in the area of health but in the political realm where there is a concern that such techniques pose a threat to deliberative democracy. The planned workshop will examine the techniques and begin to consider some of the ethical and governance issues raised by their use. This is also a topic that concerns the corporate governance stream. It is hoped that the workshop will lead to collaborations between researchers and some of the peak bodies represented there.

Attachment 8 lists the 14 confirmed presenters at the workshop and draft budget for the event. It is an example of GovNet funding being used to seed bigger projects with two thirds of expenses (\$5,690) to be drawn from GovNet and the remainder from CAPPE, ANU (\$2,980).

#### **f. Preparation for Ethics Questions for Non-Governmental Development Organisations Workshop**

A considerable amount of time in 2006 was spent securing the attendance of an ideal group of participants to this workshop to be held in July 2007 (see Attachment 9). This additional time will also allow for papers to be prepared and distributed in a timely fashion ahead of the workshop.

In recent decades there has been a great expansion in the number, size and influence of international non-governmental organisations dedicated to relief and development (non-governmental development organisations, or NGDOs). This growth has led to increased scrutiny, however, and increased scrutiny has focused attention on a number of difficult ethical questions such organisations face.

*Ethical Questions for Non-Governmental Development Organisations* will bring together an international and interdisciplinary group of experts – including specialists in development studies and related disciplines, moral and political philosophers, and reflective practitioners. As well as making progress with the substantive issues, the Workshop would foster a variety of important links: between academics in different disciplines, between academics more generally and practitioners, and between national and international networks.

This workshop will help strengthen connections between GovNet and AusAid and crosses the research interests of the Asia Pacific Stream as well as Civil Society. The workshop will include representatives from aid organisations so it will critically engage with end-users in considering the ethical and governance issues such organisations face. This workshop is expected to cost \$13,000 and this will be met through GovNet, half from the ARC contribution and the other half from CSU's cash contribution.

## **5.2 Asia-Pacific Governance Capacity Building (Objective 4)**

AusAID took considerable interest in the formation of GovNet from the beginning. It sent a senior representative to the meetings in February 2004 that set out the GovNet bid strategy. Its senior management spent most of a day with the Professor Sampford (the nominated Convenor) and other senior members discussing 'values-based governance' in the same month. The network bid placed primary responsibility for developing capacity building work with the stream leader for Asia Pacific Governance (Professor Andrew Macintyre) with secondary responsibility placed with the central secretariat at Griffith. Both nodes have been very active in working with AusAID and others to develop links and to secure funding for research and infrastructure. AusAID was a major sponsor of the World Ethics Forum and is the sponsor of Australian Indonesian Governance Research Program (AIGRP) as well as supporting Public Sector Linkage Programs (both programs are explained below). With the Minister's white paper on Aid emphasising both governance and research, these links have been strengthened and funding significantly increased. As indicated in

the network bid, a senior part time staff member is located at the ANU to assist in securing external funding for capacity building work in the Asia Pacific region. The appointee (Mr Simon Cann-Evans) has already assisted network members in achieving significant success – especially after the release of the white paper.

### **Australian Indonesian Governance Research Program (AIGRP)**

In 2005, Professor Andrew Macintyre, the Stream leader for Asia Pacific Governance, approached a number of prominent members of the network with experience in Indonesia (including Professors Christopher Findlay, Tim Lindsey and Charles Sampford) to join him in seeking government support for AIGRP to be funded by AusAID. Other stream members have been subsequently involved including Mari Pangestu and Chatib Basri. The Steering Committee for the AIGRP is convened by stream leader, Professor Macintyre and includes Professors Sampford, Lindsey and Findlay as well as Chris Manning and Indonesian academics. Professor Macintyre was successful in securing \$6.3m from AusAID. Two meetings of the Board were held in 2006 (March in Canberra and October in Jakarta and a third was held on 2 April 2007). The first meeting planned the AIGRP, the second and third dispersed the first two rounds of grants totaling around \$1m. The second round of grants attracted 160 applicants.

The AIGRP involves a wide array of researchers around Australia and Indonesia, but GovNet members are centrally involved. The AIGRP is funding collaborative proposals by Australian and Indonesian researchers and will also support the cultivation of a new generation of researchers (Honours, Masters and perhaps PhD) working on governance issues in Indonesia.

### **PSLPs (AusAID's Public Sector Linkage Program)**

AusAID's Public Sector Linkages Program has been expanded to allow universities to become lead agencies from the Australian end, facilitating the kind of work that GovNet members and associated centres can participate in as researchers. Three large PSLPs were won in 2006.

1. \$350,000 of AusAID funding on *Institutional Strategies within APEC* will be delivered through 2006-2007 under the leadership of stream member, Professor Peter Drysdale of the ANU.
2. \$125,000 for *Sharing the Experience of Australian Public Integrity Systems with Indonesia: A study mission by the Indonesian House of Regional Representatives (DPD)* with follow-on Regional Workshops in Indonesia was delivered by Griffith University under leadership of stream member, Dr Arthur Shacklock and former parliamentarian Clem Campbell. The DPD has requested follow up workshops in other regions and funding is being sought for that by the Convenor.
3. \$190,000 for a Public Integrity Training Package (for initial delivery direct to partner organisations but designed for inclusion within the mooted Centre for Integrity Development (CID) will also be delivered by Griffith University under leadership of the Convenor.

### **Other Work**

Mr Simon Cann-Evans has already assisted in winning \$80,000 AusAID funding for trade capacity-building work (through the TAMPF facility in association with the Indonesian Ministry of Trade). This was delivered in early 2006 under the leadership of GovNet and Asia Pacific stream member, Professor Christopher Findlay from the University of Adelaide.

The Griffith based node won capacity building work from DFAT, the World Bank as well as research work from the Soros funded Open Society Institute. This included:

- a national integrity systems assessment of Georgia (May 2005 to September 2006);

- a two week mission to East Timor to advise on governance reforms to the finance department to assist it to spend its budget in favour of the East Timorese people (May 2005); and
- two, 2-day APEC workshops funded by DFAT in January 2006 – one in Hanoi and one in Manila led by the Convenor and Dr Shacklock – on ‘Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency’.

The Attorney General’s (AG) Department invited the Convenor and Deputy Convenor to give advice on the elements of the whole of government response to the white paper that would be co-ordinated by the Commonwealth AG’s Department. This was held on Friday June 9 2006 in Canberra and AG’s funded their attendance along with three other GovNet members (cost \$4,122).

### **5.3 World Ethics Forum & the Global Integrity Alliance**

#### **The World Ethics Forum (WEF)**

The World Ethics Forum (WEF) was the brainchild of Tunku Abdul Aziz, formerly Deputy Chair of Transparency International and later the UN Secretary General’s Special Advisor on the establishment of the UN Ethics Office. He proposed that the name of the International Institute for Public Ethics (IIPE) biennial conference be changed to the World Ethics Forum. The inaugural forum was held in Oxford in April 2006 and focused on leadership and ethics as the two ‘missing ingredients’ of governance reform.

Recognising the benefits for GovNet to be involved in this prestigious international conference, the Convenor secured the agreement of the World Bank to support the inaugural WEF in early 2005. Then in December 2005, when the NGO that had offered to host the conference struck difficulties, the Convenor took on the role of the Chair of the Conference Organising Committee. This included administrative responsibility for organising the conference. If he had not had the support of GovNet, this would have been impossible. He secured vastly increased support from the World Bank (USD \$150,000 by December 2005 and the World Bank eventually secured USD \$700,000 from all sources – including USD \$200,000 from USAID, USD \$100,000 from DFID, AUD \$100,000 from AusAID and most of the remainder from the World Bank), liaised with the World Bank, brought Oxford University and the United Nations University (UNU) into the event as co-sponsors, personally invited and secured the attendance of Mary Robinson and Huguette Labelle (the new Chair of Transparency International), organised the program and provided support for the local Oxford secretariat from non-GovNet funds. The major contribution was in the Convenor’s time and that of the GovNet Administrator and Webmaster with assistance from Griffith University’s international projects division. Most of the financial support was provided directly to participants from developing countries but AUD \$411,369 was provided through a World Bank contract with Griffith University. To ease cash flow pressures, Griffith University allowed funds to be expended before funds arrived under the World Bank contract. GovNet and UNU-IEGL were each prepared to underwrite the conference by \$30,000 each. While this was necessary to ensure that the WEF could proceed, it was quite unnecessary. The direct financial support of GovNet was limited to a \$6,096 contribution to travel costs for the GovNet Convenor and the leader of the corporate governance workshop in association with UNEP-FI and Global Compact and \$4,000 salary and \$2,191 travel for a research assistant to assist with the workshop. GovNet and UNU-IEGL also underwrote the WEF by AUD\$30,000 each GovNet’s contribution has been explicitly acknowledged on the conference website at: <http://www.iipe.org/worldethicsforum/sponsors.htm>.

In the end, the conference reached the maximum 250 participants that Keble College could accommodate. The opening ceremony was held in the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford University. The World Bank invited the Convenor to chair the opening ceremony at which Mary Robinson and Dr Labelle delivered keynote addresses. Participants included leaders from developing countries, academics, practitioners, government, integrity agencies, aid donors and a particularly active group of youth leaders. Feedback was extremely positive and Hon Justice Barry O’Keefe, who is the Chair of the much larger International Anti-Corruption Conference pronounced it the best

conference he had ever attended. More importantly, a substantial and potentially long running international initiative is being built on it (see GIA next). Further information including a list of delegates who attended and papers that were submitted is provided in Attachment 10.

GovNet is currently finalising Conference Proceedings to be published by the end of April. AusAID has assisted with a \$20,000 grant to cover editing, printing and postage of 1,000 copies.

### **Global Integrity Alliance (GIA)**

The WEF provided great impetus for the establishment of a properly funded Global Integrity Alliance to devise innovative ways to support leaders with integrity in developing nations. The Convenor became one of the lead members of the Steering Committee for the Alliance. Following the WEF and after an initial video conference meeting, two meetings were organised by the World Bank to coincide with the Convenor's visits to Washington in September and November 2006. At that time, a Board was constituted and the Convenor was appointed to it. The Convenor has worked very closely with AusAID which has been very supportive. This has placed Australia in a very strong position in this important new governance development.

GovNet support for the GIA has been limited to the Convenor's time (an in-kind contribution from Griffith University) and the following travel costs: \$2,000 contribution to each US trip (Sept and Nov) airfare, \$913.50 for overseas travel claims (accommodation and expenses).

## **5.4 Annual GovNet International Conference**

The 2006 GovNet International Conference, *Transformations in Governance: Capacity Building in Australia and the Asia/Pacific Region*, ran for three days from 29 November to 1 December. This year's conference attracted 20 international speakers and between 40 to 50 domestic speakers with a total of 157 registrants. Twenty postgraduates attended and there was a special 2 hour session for postgraduate presentations where six students presented on their research topics to an audience of around 50 senior staff.

The conference presented 8 themes organised across the GovNet spectrum of interests, these together with the program are outlined Attachment 11. A list of papers given at the Conference is provided on the List Forum of the GovNet website at [www.griffith.edu.au/govnet](http://www.griffith.edu.au/govnet).

## **5.5 Socratic Forums**

The Socratic Forums are for the general public designed to enhance non-partisan debate on key issues facing the Australian people by encouraging thoughtful contributors to speak their minds free from the constraints of political, religious and other affiliations. Founded and Co-chaired by Professor Ashley W. Goldsworthy AO OBE FTSE FCIE (former President of the Liberal Party) and Co-chaired by the Hon. Dr. Barry O. Jones AO FAA FAHA FTSE FASSA FRSA (former President of the Australian Labor Party) the Socratic Forums are an initiative of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance and co-sponsored by GovNet. Three forums were held in 2006 debating the issue that, "We should keep Religion out of Australian Politics".

### **Forum Dates:**

3 May 2006, Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Brisbane

14 September 2006, University of Sydney, Sydney

15 November 2006, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne

### **Speakers and participants:**

The **Brisbane** forum was chaired by the Hon. Rod Welford and speakers included Dr Noel Preston, Dr David Solomon, Dr Mohamad Abdalla, Professor Wayne Hudson, Mr James Crowley QC and Mr Ray Campbell. Over 100 members of the public attended and an article by Dr Mohamad Abdalla, 'Perspectives' featured in the Courier Mail to promote the event.

In **Sydney**, John Cleary, leading religious affairs commentator and host of *Sunday Nights* on ABC Local Radio chaired the forum. Speakers including, Arthur Chesterfield-Evans, Rt Rev Robert Forsyth, David Duffy, Jamila Hussain, Dr Stephen Mutch and Suzanne Rutland, addressed an audience of around 80 people.

The Sydney Forum was broadcast as "Should politics and religion mix?" the following Sunday (17/09/2006) on *Sunday Nights*, ABC Local Radio. The show featured Arthur Chesterfield-Evans as the Speaker For and Rt Rev Robert Forsyth as the Speaker Against.

The Hon Dr Barry Jones AO facilitated the **Melbourne** event with speakers, Senator Lyn Allison, Professor Frank Brennan SJ AO, Professor Judith Brett, Professor Desmond Cahill, Dr Brian Coman, and Dr Muriel Porter OAM all contributing to scholarly and informative discussion. Around 85 people attended this forum which will be broadcast on Friday, 6 April 2007 at 18:05 on ABC Radio National (in lieu of Australia Talks). It is an edited version and a transcript will be provided on the ABC Radio National site [abc.net.au/rn](http://abc.net.au/rn) with links to GovNet.

As estimated 55 hours of administration time was given in organising and publicising these events by the three Universities involved. Queensland Parliament and the Australian Catholic University provided the venues as in-kind contributions.

## 5.6 Communication

### 5.6.1 Website ([www.griffith.edu.au/govnet](http://www.griffith.edu.au/govnet))

In early 2006, GovNet implemented a website development strategy to structure the provision of a broad array of tools accessible by a wide range of users to enhance research collaborations and outcomes. Consideration was given to the range of technical experience and the level of engagement members would like with the GovNet community. Significant progress has been made in developing and implementing this strategy, with three core focus: building, facilitating and producing.

In 2006, the first phasing of building the site was completed and a great deal of effort was invested into facilitating the uptake of the website's tools to enhance collaboration. The activities and outcomes from this are detailed below.

#### Focus 1: Building

The bulk of stage 1 was carried out during 2006 and the key deliverables included:

- Up-to-date static website (regular new content);
- Online GovNet membership database and registration process (significant increase in membership); and
- GovNet online collaboration space where members can post comments, feedback and ideas on papers or topics.

An online collaboration facility has been created. This is designed to act as a type of virtual conference facility through its discussion forums organised along the five research streams. In these forums, members can ask questions of the broader GovNet community, debate ideas, suggest improvements to the network and most importantly, present research outputs immediately to a wider audience. Members of the public can also access workshop and conference papers and other GovNet resources online, including comments posted by members in the discussion forums.

GovNet members can also personalise the type of information they wish to receive from the GovNet website through creating what is called a TIKI profile.

## **Focus 2: Facilitating**

The focus is to facilitate contact, communication and collaboration through raising awareness and use of the online tools. Facilitation through web communication is already occurring as outlined below and we plan to enhance this in 2007 with more direct contact and information sessions.

### **a) Extending the impact of our Workshops and Conferences**

One problem facing such a widespread network is that relatively few can attend the conferences and workshops offered. The GovNet site provides at least two ways to extend the physical conferences to them. One recent example is from the annual GovNet conference where a number of the papers presented were uploaded to the site and discussion areas were enabled for each. Another example is where papers or abstracts can be uploaded prior to the conference so that those who are interested yet unable to attend can read, comment and pose questions that will be incorporated into the sessions of the conference. Responses to these questions are posted to the discussion forums in addition to the other questions posed during the paper sessions. These facilities have been used for the recent workshop, *Dynamics of Capital Market Governance*.

### **b) Membership Database**

Members are able to contact each other through a powerful search tool that allows for individuals to find others' details through a broad range of terms including their name, stream of research interest, institutional affiliation or contact details.

### **c) Building Network Communication and Collaboration**

Four new communication and collaboration tools are currently being offered or tested to bring into the GovNet by mid 2007:

1. Wiki – specialised for GovNet (operational)
2. E-Journal and E-Newsletter (launch in April 07)
3. Instant Messaging (in testing)
4. Email searches (in testing)

#### **1. Wiki enhancing collaboration**

GovNet website is enhancing its virtual research centre through its innovative use of a Wiki, or online collaboration area. In the Wiki, any number of groups can be created in which researchers from all over the world can collaborate on a publication or grant proposal that is produced online.

GovNet has already made significant contributions to the open source establishment through its application of the Wiki environment in a research setting. For example, traditionally, much academic collaboration has been conducted through collation of individual efforts. While keeping this approach as a possibility, the GovNet site has expanded collaboration to permit any number of researchers to work on the same document, almost simultaneously. In order to ease transition from the individual contribution to a more efficient, collaborative environment, we have had to invent a simple, server-side process for converting work done on a personal computer (where much work is done) to a format amenable to multiple contributors online. Having a server-side solution allows for anyone with a word processor and a connection to the Internet to contribute with minimal technological expertise and time demands.

## **2. E-Journal and E-News**

This is discussed in Section 5.6.2, page 29.

## **3. Instant Messaging**

This communication tool will appear in mid-April and works within the GovNet collaborative space to give members the ability to IM (instant message) any other member in real time. If the member is not available, the message is stored in their message box and highlighted the next time they login.

## **4. Email search**

Another communication tool will be added to the membership database in June, which will permit members to email directly from the membership database search. This will prove useful in a number of ways. For example, if a GovNet member were to go to Canberra for some meetings and desire to connect with corporate governance researchers at the ANU, they would go to the search tool, type in 'australia national university' and select the 'corporate governance' research stream. Along with the results would appear an option to send an email to all pertinent members or a select number. The message interface would be handled within the same database and send a copy of the message to the message's author's personal email account.

### **Focus 3: Producing**

The final purpose of laying a solid foundation and facilitating contact, communication and collaboration is to increase the number and quality of publications and grants awarded. Thus the focus of Stage 3 will be on working with those members who are collaborating to strengthen their proposals and publications.

### **Review of Web Work**

Commencing in February this year, we are conducting a four-step evaluation of the website. The evaluation includes analysis of data gathered from our membership and an assessment on the impact the website has had on GovNet growth.

GovNet has benefited from the online registration form with membership increasing more than 55% since the online form was made available in August 2006. International membership has shown the greatest rate of growth, outstripping the next fastest growing subset (i.e. Australian Capital Territory – subset by jurisdiction) by over 27%. ACT and NSW are the jurisdictions with the highest percentage of members.

Since the online form the average number of streams per member has increased to 2.2 research streams. This increase can be perhaps explained partly by the success GovNet online has had attracting RHD students, who can be viewed as more broadly interested. RHD student enrolment has increased substantially over recent months (from 3 to 22 students) and represent 9% of membership.

The second step was a telephone survey using a modified likert-scale instrument with a number of open-ended questions (see Attachment 12). Respondents were chosen from the membership database through a sample stratified according to their professional level (RHD, early career, advanced) and geographic location. The outcome of this survey was that a great deal of interest in the website and its tools to facilitate collaborative research exist, however, more awareness raising and training needs to be provided for GovNet members. Therefore, the third step will involve a more focused discussion with key individuals identified through step two, both to obtain a more detailed assessment of the online services GovNet offers and to elicit improvements. Finally, the fourth step will include visits to areas with the greatest number of GovNet members (Brisbane, Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney) for the purpose of training key adopters of these technologies to act as local resources and technical extension agents. These visits are scheduled to take place in September 2007.

## 5.6.2 E-Journal and E-News

The **GovNet E-Journal** will be launched in April and the content will be drawn from the highest quality presentations of GovNet-sponsored events. Volume One, Issue One will include papers given at the World Ethics Forum held April 9-12 2006 at Keble College, University of Oxford, UK.

Volume one, Issue Two will be comprised of submissions from presenters in the recent workshop on *Dynamics of Capital Market Governance* held at the Australian National University 14-15 March, 2007.

The **E-Newsletter** will be published monthly at first, moving to bimonthly after a trial period. It will: announce events; describe new features of the website (as well as discuss any common technical issues that may arise and respond to questions from the GovNet members); spotlight a new member or someone who has successfully used the network; announce new grants or publications; highlight interesting discussions taking place in the collaboration site and introduce events of note.

Each issue will be targeted at bringing people to visit the website.

## 6. Future GovNet Activities

### 6.1 Stream Activities

### 6.2 Capacity Building

### 6.3 Other GovNet Central Activities

#### 6.3.1 Global Integrity Alliance

#### 6.3.2 Improving the techniques of research design and management

#### 6.3.3 GovNet Website

#### 6.3.4 E-Newsletter and E-Journal

#### 6.3.5 Socratic Forums

## 6.1 Stream Activities

### Stream 1: Global, International and Trans-National Governance

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#### Planned Activities and Outputs for 2007

- a. The Medical Governance Program plans to:
  - put in place the research team in cooperation with overseas partners;
  - obtain funding for that research;
  - select a developing country in the Asia Pacific with which Australia will cooperate; and
  - obtain funds from AUSAID to facilitate the research efforts of the Third World partner.
- b. Develop and seek funding for other new projects – including the international integrity system and internationalising the rule of law. The Convenor will visit CIGI, UN foundations and others during June 2007.
- c. Develop an international project on “Conceptions of the Good Life” in conjunction with the World Institute for Development Economic Research and other United Nations University (UNU) centres. Griffith has contributed \$12,000 but GovNet will contribute up to another \$5,000.
- d. Publication of papers from the World Ethics Forum and loading on relevant websites (funded by a \$20,000 grant from AusAID).

- e. Meeting with stream members in each Australian city where there are two or more stream members to consider preferred and feasible linkage and international linkage projects \$5,000.
- f. Preparing for three major co-funded workshops to be held in late 2007 or early 2008.
- historical conceptions of sovereignty funded by Princeton University in March 2008
  - ethical supports for the international rule of law co-funded by UNU
  - the meaning of liberty in a globalising world to be held jointly with George Mason University Washington
  - the meaning of rights in a globalising world to be held jointly with Oxford University
- This will involve visits to the various universities as part of a contribution by GovNet of up to \$45,000 over 2007-8. Contribution by Griffith University and the Queensland University of Technology will be up to \$25,000.
- g. Further development of ties with multilateral agencies and international NGOs including the World Bank, UNHCR, WHO, CIGI, Transparency International (TI) and Mary Robinson's Global Ethics Initiative. Contribution by GovNet \$5,000. Contribution by Griffith University and QUT \$5,000.
- h. Development of a new project connecting Australian researchers and others internationally undertaking work on some aspect of e-governance; with Brian Fitzgerald at QUT. \$3,000 from GovNet and \$3,000 from QUT.

## **Stream 2: Asia-pacific institutional reform and regional cooperation**

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### **Planned Activities and Outputs for 2007**

A list of proposed activities is currently being finalised in consultation with stream members. A major priority is governance reform in China.

## **Stream 3: Public Sector Governance**

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2007

- IPAA/ANZSOG conference on New Centralism in Government and Intergovernmental Relations to be held in May. Combining practitioners and academics – with intention to build knowledge and publish outcomes.
- June/July major ANZSOG conference on Connecting Government – Delivering Services and Policy through Other providers (involving PM&C, APSC, State Premier's Dept); this is intended as a conference to involve end-users in framing research and deliberating future policy options. It will also seed new research opportunities and collaborations.

The first will involve a contribution of \$10,000 from GovNet funds. The latter will involve a higher contribution of around \$30,000.

## **Stream 4: Corporate Governance and Regulation**

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### **Planned Activities and Outputs for 2007**

- a. Govnet - ESRC Workshop: The Dynamics of Capital Market Governance, 14-15 March, ANU

The total cost of this event was \$52,188 which included a \$25,000 contribution from GovNet, \$12,500 from the Economic and Social Research Council as well as \$14,688 from CAPPE. While the main goals are networking with British and North American collaborators, an edited book will be produced.

- b. ESRC - Govnet Workshop: The Regulatory Implications of the Global Private Equity Boom  
Warwick University, 11-13 July

The Govnet contribution is expected to be \$5000 to pay for one participant from Australia.

- c. GovNet Workshop: Corporate Social Responsibility, Corporate Governance and Regulation/Civil Society, November 2007

The GovNet contribution is likely to be at least \$5000 to cover one international participant.

- d. Building links to CBERN through a visit to Canada by the Convenor and participation in a CBERN workshop in September or October. While most will be paid by CBERN, GovNet will contribute up to \$5,000.

- e. Co-sponsor a series of public lectures:

- Professor John Coffee of Columbia University Law School (University of Melbourne 12 March 2007 and University of Sydney 16 March 2007).
- Professor Lauren Edelman of the University of California at Berkeley (Monash University, 16 March 2007).

- f. Edited book, *Private Equity, Corporate Governance and the Dynamics of the Capital Market Governance*.

- g. Grant Applications being made include:

- Discovery Grant: Back to the Future, The Corporate Governance Implications of the Global Private Equity Boom (Justin O'Brien)
- Linkage Grant: Managing Conflicts (Justin O'Brien, Ian Ramsay, Keith Houghton and Seumas Miller).
- ESRC Grant: Private Equity, A Global Opportunity or Threat? (Justin O'Brien, Sally Wheeler, Iain McNeil, Doreen McBarnet).

## **Stream 5: Civil Society Governance: Professions, Religious Institutions and NGOs**

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### **Planned Activities and Outputs for 2007**

- a. **Ethics Questions for Non-Governmental Development Organisations Workshop (held over from 2006)**

July 2007, Melbourne

Between 20 and 25 people (13 already accepted) are expected to attend and present at this workshop. We anticipate it will cost approximately \$13,000 with CAPPE providing support to the event in-kind. Attachment 9 provides the objective, draft budget and list of invitees.

- b. **The Psychology and Ethics of New Marketing Workshop (held over from 2006)**

6-7 August 2007, University of Melbourne

The workshop already has 14 confirmed participants and their names, affiliation and provisional paper topics are provided in Attachment 8. The Convenors will edit a volume of the best papers presented at the workshop. The expected cost of this event to be met by GovNet is \$8,940.

### **c. Religious Citizenship Program**

Conference - Tolerance, Education and the Curriculum, 1-2 September, 2007  
Research School of the Humanities ANU

This will be a new focus for the civil society stream in 2007/8 and one which is increasingly important in the light of debates over Muslim immigration and the influence of religious groups from the Catholic Church to the Exclusive Brethren on politics and policy.

In 2007 we will provide funding for an international keynote speaker \$5,000 for a cross-disciplinary conference on the theme of Tolerance, Education and the Curriculum to be held on September 1-2, 2007, at the Research School of the Humanities, Australian National University. It will consider questions such as: "Should the promotion of tolerance as a 'civic virtue' be a minimum requirement for public funding of religious schools? What is the difference between the state using religious symbols, and its citizens using them? Should state schools be rigorously secular? If so, should they provide opportunities for religious education and worship, or is this a private, parental responsibility? Does the failure to provide facilities for religious worship within public schools and universities create unreasonable barriers to equal access to education?"

We will call for expressions of interest in running workshops or other activities on this theme in 2008 to be part funded by GovNet.

We will set aside \$5,000 of stream funding and draw upon \$5,000 of CSU funding from CAPPE to support this theme and act as a clearing house for ideas.

In all stream activities limited subsidies will be offered to members to attend with preference given to RHD students and ECR's. We will require a written report on any activities substantially funded by GovNet including any research collaborations formed as a result.

### **d. Conference on the Governance of Science and Technology**

It is proposed to hold a two day conference, to be held in mid August 2007 that will examine ethical issues related to the governance of scientific research and technological development.

Funding is being sought from GovNet to support one keynote speaker from either the US or the UK. Potential keynote speakers under consideration are Richard Mason (Cambridge), Philip Kitcher (Columbia) and Bernard Rollin (Colorado). Funding is also requested for one speaker from Asia and one from Australia. Discussion is underway with Dr. Darryl Macer, UNESCO Regional Advisor in Social and Human Sciences for Asia and the Pacific, for UNESCO participation in this conference. He is keen on this and is exploring the possibility of some UNESCO funding. CAPPE will supply administrative support and support for accommodation in which to hold the conference.

## **6.2 Capacity Building**

1. Professor MacIntyre will continue to lead the AIGRP with the involvement of GovNet members.
2. The Convenor will continue to work closely with the Global Integrity Alliance as an active and prominent Board Member and will seek to involve GovNet members in this work. We are seeking substantial funding for the next World Ethics Forum due for April 2008. GovNet central would act as a secretariat for the conference. There is strong support for GovNet to become a regional hub to support those who want to lead with integrity in the region.

3. The Convenor will work with researchers, governments and NGOs in Indonesia and the Philippines with the goal of establishing centres in Jakarta and Manila with the launch of the former likely during 2007 and the latter by mid 2008. Support at Presidential level has now been secured.
4. Project work won in 2006 under the Australian Indonesian Governance Research Program and AusAid's Public Sector Linkages Program with Indonesia will continue to be carried out in 2007 and 2008.
5. Project Manager, Simon Cann-Evans will hold a series of workshops and meetings for GovNet members relating to securing capacity building projects. The first of these was held on 30 March at Griffith University. The aim of this workshop was to develop opportunities for Australian governance researchers and practitioners to contribute to governance capacity building projects in the Asia Pacific region. Mr Cann-Evans:
  - advised GovNet members on the kind of capacity building projects that are available;
  - identified the kinds of capacity building projects that individuals researchers might be able to secure; and
  - assisted with drafting of some bids for capacity building projects. Priority was given to capacity building projects involving participants from more than one university and involving practitioners as well as academics.

Once GovNet members have experience in seeking capacity building work, their own organisations can take over the responsibility of drafting bids and Mr Cann Evans will confine his support to advice, feedback and strategic planning.

### **6.3 Other GovNet Central Activities**

In addition to the stream work a range of activities will continue to be pursued by the Convenor, Deputy Convenor and 'GovNet central' staff.

#### **6.3.1 Global Integrity Alliance**

The Convenor and GovNet central will work with the Global Integrity Alliance (GIA) and World Bank. The Convenor will be attending Board Meetings and Regional Dialogues. GovNet is likely to play a significant role in organising a regional dialogue in the Asia Pacific. Most funding will come from the GIA but a contribution by GovNet of up to \$40,000 if required.

#### **6.3.2 Improving the techniques of research design and management**

As indicated in the introduction, this activity will commence in 2007. An online forum has been created to address this objective on the GovNet website where members can share resources, experience and best practice. Later in the year, the Deputy Convenor will travel to each capital city to discuss approaches to research design and management with centre directors and to hold some workshops to compare ideas.

#### **6.3.3 GovNet Website**

Work will continue on the website development strategy focusing on facilitating the use of the online collaborative space to promote discussion, ideas and feedback on our research and to disseminate research outputs to a broad range of users as quickly as possible.

In 2007, we plan to capitalise on the interest in the website tools generate from our recent survey and provide more direct information and training sessions to GovNet members. Visits to Brisbane, Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney to coincide with workshops planned

by the International Stream are scheduled for September. The purpose of these visits will be to work with the pre-identified key adopters of these technologies to showcase how the website can assist research and train other members interested in the technology.

#### **6.3.4 E-Journal and E-Newsletter**

As highlighted in this report (5.6.2 pp 29) the launch of both the e-journal and e-newsletter will be in April 2007.

#### **6.3.5 Socratic Forum**

The 2007 Socratic Forum Series will be on the topic, *“That Canberra is taking too much power from the states.”*

Since 1901 there has been support and opposition by both major political parties at different times for increased centralised power vested in the Commonwealth. Issues of relevance today, such as taxation, health, infrastructure, nuclear power, water and licensing, among others ensure that the issue of Australian federalism continues to be of considerable significance to the wider Australian community. This Socratic Forum aims to examine what the roles of the states and Commonwealth should be in the early part of the 21st century in a rapidly globalising world. Forums will be held in Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra.